

Serial No. 08/750,641
Docket: 77792/23

following remarks are made thereto. Claims 1-10 are presently pending in this application for consideration.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants thank Examiner Hernandez for her courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the March 23, 2000 telephonic interview. The substance of the interview is embodied in the following remarks.

The final Office Action rejects claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,237,499 to Garback in view of travel planning system (travelersnet.com) [hereinafter "Travelers"] and U.S. Patent No. 4,862,357 to Ahlstrom et al. [hereinafter "Ahlstrom"] and claim 5 under the same as being unpatentable over the combination of Garback and Travelers in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,757,289 to Nimura et al. [hereinafter "Nimura"]. In addition, the Advisory Action indicates that Applicants' arguments were not directed to the claimed subject matter.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims are patentably distinguishable over the cited references as required by §103. Applicants further submit that the cited references fail to disclose "a frame-preparing means for preparing a basic frame of a schedule including types of intermediate and final locations, and a transfer order indicated a chronological sequence of events in said basic frame, based on said destination information and desired arrival time information" as recited in independent claim 1. Thus, these claims are allowable over the cited references.

A "transfer order" refers to a chronological sequence of events in a basic frame. One example of such a sequence is described in the specification, on page 11, lines 8-15, in which the transfer order of events is as follows: departure → walk → lunch → amusement park → night view → return back. Another example is also shown on page 12. The basic frame of the present invention consists of a type of location and the transfer order, and a more specific schedule is prepared based on this basic frame. The idea of the present invention in which the basic frame comprising the type and order is initially determined is not disclosed in the cited references.

Conclusion

Examination of this application in light of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4240 to discuss

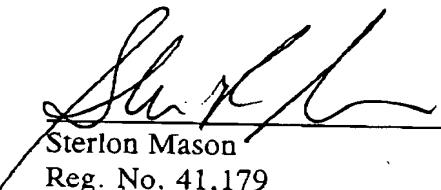
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any matter concerning this application.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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